

'Devil Dog' discusses time in Iraq

Story, photo by MC2 Kim Williams
NAVSTA PAO

The workday in Iraq, as with many deployments, ends differently each day depending on the military's mission. In al-Anbar province, located alongside Iraq's Euphrates valley, the men and women of the American Armed Forces and their international allies work day and night to return peace of mind and structure to a province once governed by turmoil and fear.

During the Iraq war's five-year span, Marine Capt. Jason Snyder, MCSF CO GTMO executive officer has deployed to the region twice, once to the al-Anbar province and once to the city of Ar Ramadi.

Each deployment, said Snyder, was uniquely different.

Different in that during his first deployment in 2004, the region was more "kinetic and volatile" but by the end of his second deployment, Ar Ramadi and al-Anbar saw a sharp decline in violence and crime.

Al-Anbar province was the original launching pad for the insurgency in Iraq five years ago.

"You take the good with the bad. I thought I was doing one thing for seven months vice one year, but if there are Marines and Soldiers doing the job, I want to be there."

Snyder volunteered to deploy to the region in February 2007 after receiving a call from his parent command in Norfolk.

"In the Marines, there are ways for people who never been to Iraq to volunteer to go IA. There is a process that they volunteer and will be sent," said Snyder. "I literally got a call from my battalion back in Norfolk and



Marine Capt. Jason Snyder recently participated in the Bataan Memorial Death March run in honor of fallen Marines and Sailors from his battalion killed in action during their deployment to al-Anbar Province in 2004.

they said we need to know in about 24 hrs if the Marines mission in GTMO was going you want to go to Iraq. At the time we thought

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Navy News

Month of the Military Child



Three local children frolic in a field of grass at the CDC playground.

The Department of Defense, military services and communities around the world once again are set to recognize the importance of military children whose parents serve their country.

The month-long recognition, first celebrated in 1986, is especially important today as resilient families manage long separations, said Leslye A. Arsht, deputy under secretary for military community and family policy.

"Our military children are proud of their moms and dads for their brave defense of our great country," Arsht said. "The Month of the Military Child events and activities let us show the youngest members of our military family – the children – how proud we are of their contributions, too. Our

military children are unsung heroes. This is our chance to thank them for being so supportive of their parents."

Growing up in a military family offers some challenges, but it also provides some special rewards and pride for their parents' service, she said. About half of military children, or 1.2 million, have had a parent deploy.

Kick-off ceremonies and special activities will be held across the world at many military installations, schools and local communities throughout the April Month of the Military Child. Arsht encourages families to participate.

"We are grateful to our many community partners who join in this salute," she says. "Families also serve – including the children."



What is the best thing about being a military dependant?



"The best thing about being a dependant of a military servicemember is that it's a new experience every time we move. You get to see new places, but you lose all your friends."

*Ma Mimiko Ocampo,
8th Grade Student*

"The best thing is that I get to meet new people and new cultures."

*Hali Hearn,
11th Grade Student*



"The best thing about being a military dependant was that when we lived in Guam, we lived right by the beach in a condo with a pool."

*Matt Devine,
8th Grade Student*



"It's good in two ways to be a military dependant. I like seeing new places and meet new people. I do like to travel, but I don't like losing my friends."

*Chelce Hardin,
9th Grade Student*



GUANTANAMO BAY

Gazette

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Local news

New terminal annex eases travel woes

Story, photo by MC1 Robert Lamb

NAVSTA PAO

Any process that makes it easier to fly in or out of Guantanamo Bay (GTMO) is welcome news.

Most residents of GTMO spend hours upon hours at the Leeward Air Terminal when they're trying to fly off the island, either on Saturday, every other Tuesday or even Wednesdays. Well that's all about to change with the new Windward Passenger Terminal Annex (WPTA), located in the parking lot of the Downtown Lyceum.

This is a major quality of life concern; the new building will eliminate standing around the terminal and even eliminate hauling personal luggage from one side to the other.

AMC Terminal Manager, Mark Veditz, says the newly constructed WPTA was established to eliminate the need to hand carry baggage on the ferry crossing to the main passenger terminal and to reduce the pre-boarding/processing time prior to all AMC charter flights.

Here's how it will work: if you're flying out on a Saturday, and you've already been authorized to fly, meaning you have a paid ticket, you'll be able to stop by the WPTA the day before your departing flight, between 3:30 and 8:30 p.m. and check in your bags and receive a boarding pass for the next day's flight. The AMC contractor will transport your luggage the next day and you'll be able to catch a ferry ride over and arrive sometime later in the morning.

"The passengers who check in their luggage the day before a flight at the WPTA will be able to check in a couple of hours later, maybe around noon, said Mark Veditz, AMC Terminal Manager. "Show time will remain the same, so if you don't check in at the Windward annex, you'll still need to come over and check in by 10 a.m. on Saturdays, 11 a.m. for the alternating Tuesday rotator and 11 a.m. for the Wednesday flight to Jamaica," added Veditz.

When you check into the WPTA you'll need to have your bags, orders (extra copy), cash, ticket, any travel documents that you normally would need in the past," said Veditz.

The WPTA will be staffed and operated



The new Windward Passenger Terminal Annex (WPTA) will affect all travelers except those flying out Space - A. Returning passengers will be able to pick up their luggage at the WPTA, regardless of how they departed GTMO.

to service departing passengers on the day prior to all AMC charter flights, Special Assignment Airlift Missions, or as directed by the Government. Additionally, baggage deliveries from the Leeward main passenger terminal to the WPTA will be required immediately after the arrival of such flights. The contractor will transport AMC charter baggage to the Windward side for pick-up at the WPTA.

The WPTA will be open for arriving and departing passengers to drop off and pick up their baggage for a minimum of two hours after the baggage arrives and becomes available for pick-up.

Passenger checked baggage will be stored inside of the WPTA, or in a locked closed container truck parked within the annex perimeter security fencing. All vehicle pedestrian gates will be secured when the annex is closed.

Because you checked in at the WPTA, AMC personnel will check off your name when you arrive the day of your flight on the Leeward side and you will have to comply with all Federal Aviation guidelines as normal.

"We will not be doing Space-A Travel at the WPTA, because Space-A Travel is seats available. If there is only 10 - 15 seats open on the Space - A list we still actually have to do a Space - A list roll call, so you'll have to come over around 10 a.m. to get a boarding pass. Smaller lines and less people on the ferry at that time, but we're trying to work out something with that, so residents need to pay attention to the 'roller' for further updates," Veditz said.

If for some reason you checked in at the WPTA, the day before, in preparation for the next day's flight and you get delayed or even cancelled, you'll have to notify the Leeward Air terminal at 6305 or 6006, as soon as possible to make arrangements to receive your luggage the next day.

The new Windward Passenger Terminal Annex (WPTA) is scheduled to open June 1, 2008.

Correction

Last week's photo of the golf course should have been attributed to Marianne Mabbitt. We're sorry for the incorrect photo credit.

Combat pay considered for economic stimulus pay out

Story provided by the IRS

Military personnel serving in combat zones have the option of including their nontaxable combat pay on their 2007 or 2008 income tax returns if it helps their eligibility for the 2008 economic stimulus payments.

To receive the stimulus payment this year, combat zone personnel or their spouses must file a 2007 income tax return by Oct. 15. Otherwise, they can claim the economic stimulus payment on next year's income tax return.

"The last thing we want our troops in Iraq or other war zones to worry about are their tax returns. But we do want the troops, and their families stateside, to know they may qualify for the economic stimulus payment," said Linda E. Stiff, Acting Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service.

Starting in May, the IRS will issue economic stimulus payments of up to \$600 (\$1,200 for married couples) plus a \$300 payment for each qualifying child younger than 17. The payments are based on 2007 income tax returns. The payments for individuals will begin to phase out starting at \$75,000 in adjusted gross income (\$150,000 for married couples).

Even individuals and families who normally do not file a tax return because they have no filing requirement may qualify for an economic stimulus payment. They may be eligible for the minimum payment of \$300 (\$600 for married couples) plus the \$300 for each qualifying child younger than 17.

People must have at least \$3,000 in qualifying income to get a payment. Qualifying income is defined as any combination of earned income (such as wages or taxable income from self-employment), nontaxable combat pay and certain benefits from Social Security, Veterans Affairs and Railroad Retirement.

Military personnel who normally would not file an income tax return because their 2007 income is not taxable can file a simple Form 1040A with the IRS if they want to receive the economic stimulus payment. They should report their nontaxable combat pay on Line 40b of the Form 1040A to show at least \$3,000 in qualifying income. The Department of Defense lists the amount of excluded combat pay on line 12, box Q of Forms W-2 received by military personnel.

If a military person is serving in a combat

zone, his or her normal tax filing requirement is extended until at least 180 days after leaving a combat zone. However, spouses or others with a power of attorney can prepare and file a 2007 income tax return on their behalf so that the stimulus payment is received this year.

The IRS has developed Package 1040A-3, an 8-page publication containing tax tips, a sample Form 1040A and a blank Form 1040A. The package, available at www.irs.gov, contains everything needed to file the return immediately.

To ensure that a stimulus payment will be received in 2008, the return must be filed by Oct. 15 to allow sufficient time for processing.

There are a number of special tax code provisions that apply to members of the military serving in combat zones. They include:

All military pay earned by enlisted personnel or warrant officers is excluded from gross income;

- Monthly pay of up to \$6,867.60 earned by commissioned officers is excluded from 2007 gross income.

- All military pay earned by enlisted personnel hospitalized because of injuries sustained in a combat zone is excluded from gross income during the period of hospitalization. The exclusion is limited to two years after the date of the termination of combatant activities in the combat zone.

- Commissioned officers hospitalized because of injuries sustained in a combat zone have a monthly maximum exclusion of \$6,867.60 for 2007 and have the same two-year limitation.

- Military personnel who miss a tax filing deadline because they are in a combat zone have 180 days after they leave that combat zone to file a tax return, if they have taxable income.

All the provisions also apply to members of the Reserves and the National Guard.

The IRS reminds filers that they can get their stimulus payments faster by using direct deposit when they file their tax return.

In addition, the IRS urges people to file electronically. For people who normally are not required to file a tax return, the IRS and the Free File Alliance have a special program set up to allow for free electronic filing.

For more information, visit IRS.gov.

IMPORTANT!! base insurance news

Due to a change in underwriter (a circumstance beyond the control of the Naval Station), the local insurance provider is presently unable to issue or renew policies for drivers who are not active-duty military.

Policies that have already been issued remain valid until their normal expiration dates.

This change of circumstances affects insurance policies and registrations for POVs; drivers with valid driver licenses are still able to drive corporate or government vehicles covered by fleet insurance policies (in a manner consistent with the policies of the vehicle's owner).

The Naval Station is researching what, if any, alternatives exist. Affected drivers are encouraged to seek insurance coverage from other sources, provided that the policy coverage is valid in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Registrations for POVs without current valid insurance policies are invalid.

This is a military-wide requirement set forth in OPNAVINST 11200.5D, a joint-service directive.

Therefore, any vehicle without current valid insurance is subject to citation per the Guantanamo Bay Motor Vehicle Code (NAVSTAGTMOINST 11200.1). No exceptions can be made.

For more information, contact Vehicle Registration at 4410 or the base auto insurance provider at 75579.

Patriot Express-Rotator Flight Update

Continental Airlines has picked up the Saturday Rotator missions for 12, 19, 26 April and 3 May. NAVSTA is still working to confirm whether Continental will also pick-up the remaining Saturday flights for the year (after 3 May), but they are confident that they will be accepted by Continental or another carrier.

The Saturday Rotator schedule for next Saturday through the first Saturday in May will be a Continental flight following the same arrival, departure and show times as normal. Please continue to consult the Roller Channel for any additional updates.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Respectfully,

Capt. Leary

Sailor of the Week



"I am very thankful to have been selected as Sailor of the week. I will continue to do my best and be a model to my battalion."

**Petty Officer
3rd Class
Brandon
Hardy
NMCB 74**

Photo by MC2 Kim Williams

New CNIC Logo



If anyone needs a JPEG copy of this new Commander Naval Installations Command (CNIC) logo, please contact the NAVSTA PAO at 4502 or at pao@usnbgtno.navy.mil

Religious Services/ Base Chapel

Catholic

Daily Catholic Mass Mon. - Fri. 5:30 p.m. (Main Chapel)

Vigil Mass, Sat. 5 p.m. (Main Chapel)

Sun. Mass, 7:30 a.m. (JTF-Troopers Chapel)

Sun. 9 a.m. Mass (Main Chapel)

Protestant (GTMO Chapel)

Sat. 11 a.m. Seventh Day Adventist Service (Room B)

Sun. 7 p.m. Filipino Christian Fellowship (Room A)

8 a.m. Pentecostal Gospel Temple (Room D)

9 a.m. LDS Service (Room A)

10 a.m. Liturgical Service (Room B)

11 a.m. General Prot. Service

11 a.m. United Jamaican Fellowship (Bldg 1036)

1 p.m. Gospel Service

7 p.m. Iglesia Ni Cristo (Fellowship Hall)

Friday Religious Services

1:15 p.m. Islamic Service (Room C)

7 p.m. Jewish Service (FMI call 2628)

Religious Services/ JTF Troopers Chapel

Catholic Services

Wed. 11 a.m. Spanish Mass (New)

Sat. 6:30 p.m. Vigil Mass (PPI Chapel)

Sun. 7:30 a.m. Sunday Mass (New)

Protestant (GTMO Chapel)

Sat. 11 a.m. Seventh Day Adventist Service (Room B)

Sun. 5:30 Filipino Christian Fellowship (Room A)

8 a.m. Pentecostal Gospel Temple (Room D)

9 a.m. LDS Service (Room A)

10 a.m. Liturgical Service (Room B)

11 a.m. General Prot. Service

11 a.m. United Jamaican Fellowship (Bldg 1036)

1 p.m. Gospel service

8 p.m. Iglesia Ni Cristo (Room B)

The SARP's Corner

April is Alcohol Awareness Month

- Do not drink in situations that would place you or others in danger.
 - **Do not drink every day.** You should abstain from drinking alcohol **at least** 3 or 4 days per week.
 - **0 Drinks if you are underage (20 and below).** Those of age should act responsibly and not contribute to the delinquency of a minor by supplying them with alcohol or situations that promote drinking.
 - **1 drink per hour for a maximum of three hours (3 drinks).**
 - If you follow these guidelines your risk for an alcohol related incident is very low.
- FMI about alcohol related concerns, call the SARP at 72128*

GTMO MWR School of Dance

2008 Spring Recital

Friday, May 9

at the Windjammer Ballroom, 7 p.m.

Featuring: Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Hiphop, Irish Step

Admission is free!

News

Helping Sustain Our Environment

Story by Kristine M. Sturkie

NEXCOM PAO

As good stewards of the Sailors' dollars, the Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) is always looking for ways to save money. However, NEXCOM is always looking for ways to help sustain the environment as well.

"NEXCOM's strategy to help the environment is very much aligned with the Navy's strategy and theme 'Sustaining Our Environment - Protecting Our Freedom,'" said Rear Adm. Robert Bianchi, Commander, NEXCOM. "Nearly every facet of the Navy Exchange System is involved in conserving our natural resources for the future. It's something we've been practicing for the past several years."

NEXCOM vending was one of the first military exchange programs to install energy-efficient vending machine technology, the VM2IQ™ VendingMiser®, to help lower energy costs. The VM2IQ™ is designed to be installed inside existing vending machines, and is capable of reducing energy consumed by about one-third, saving about \$100 per vending machine per year (depending upon local Kilowatt per hour rate). Using a motion sensor, VendingMiser® powers down a vending machine when the surrounding area is unoccupied and automatically re-powers the vending machine when the area is reoccupied. In addition, the VendingMiser® is designed to automatically activate the machine to power up to ensure product within the machine is always cold.

NEXCOM's distribution

centers also have worked to reduce energy consumption. At the Southeast distribution centers in Pensacola, Fla., and Norfolk, Va., its high intensity discharge fixtures were replaced with six fluorescent tube hi-bay fixtures that have a higher lamp life for half the cost. NEXCOM estimates a 33 - 37 percent savings per year respectively. In the Chino, Calif., distribution center warehouse, 490 light fixtures were replaced.

In addition, since the Chino distribution center has skylights, light fixtures with photocells were installed so that during the day, the lights will automatically turn off. These changes should bring a 30 percent savings of around \$87,900 per year.

The Great Lakes, Ill., distribution center will soon receive 180 new lighting fixtures as well. In addition, all four warehouse facilities have or will have installed motion sensors controlling the new light fixture and therefore, will only be used when actually needed. The total annual electric use savings for these warehouses will approach \$400,000 per year.

Several Navy Exchanges (NEXs) have also completed energy retrofits, which include installing power factor correction devices on air conditioning units and devices on the light fixtures to reduce voltage and lighting levels.

As new NEXs are built, some of the technology that has been incorporated in the retrofitted stores is automatically put in the new stores.



Ethanol based fuel is currently available at many NEX gas stations.

Thus, the NEX can be energy efficient from the time it opens its doors.

In an effort to help the Department of Defense (DoD) and Navy meet its objective of reducing the reliance on petroleum and meet the requirements of Executive Order 13423, NEXCOM has introduced several alternative fuel facilities at Naval installations across the country. Biodiesel 20 (B20) is now offered at Naval Station Norfolk and Naval Air Station Oceana, Va., Quarters K, Arlington, Va., Na-

val Surface Warfare Division, Crane, Ind., Naval Weapons Station Charleston, SC, Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Ga. and Naval Academy Annapolis, Md. Ethanol 85 (E85) is also offered at Quarters K and Crane, Ind. as well as Naval Air Station Jacksonville and Naval Station Mayport, Fla. Compressed natural gas (CNG) is the alternative offering at the Quarters K gas station in Washington, DC.

See Green, page 7

'Green', from page 6

NEXCOM recently awarded a multi-award contract for the supply and infrastructure development of E85 and B20 alternative fuel.

This contract is a delivery-order contract enabling expansion opportunities at sites where alternative fuels are required including other military exchanges.

"This contract will reinforce collaboration / cooperation with Chief of Naval Installations Command (CNIC) in providing alternative fuels to support Navy-wide fuels program," said Larry Boone, NEXCOM's Automotive Program Manager. "Further, DoD's biofuels study, under H.R. 5122 National Defense Authorization Act of 2007 recommends that DoD use military exchanges for developing biofuels infrastructure. This contract enables the first step toward that development."

Navy Exchange (NEX) Autoports or auto service centers also do their part in recycling materials. Everything from used oil and antifreeze to worn tires to replaced oil and air filters get recycled instead of being thrown in the landfill.

NEXCOM's Ship's Store Program has introduced Ozone washing technology to the fleet as a way to save energy and cut down on the amount of chemicals used aboard shipboard laundries.

Currently, three Navy ships have modified their ship's laundry washers to add Ozone technology to the wash cycle.

These new washers take in air from the ship's atmosphere and along with a power cell "charge" the air using ultraviolet light to create ozone. The ozone is then injected into the cold water cycle. Because it

is so reactive, ozone readily attaches itself to fatty and other soils that bind dirt to clothing, destroying them rapidly at the molecular level.

Ozone washing is extremely valuable to the fleet in a number of ways: Ozone acts as a sanitizing and bleaching agent that makes the clothing whiter, brighter and smell nicer; it allows ships to reduce the amount of standard chemicals being used which is good for the environment; it allows ships to wash in cold water reducing the need for ships to produce large amounts of hot water with associated costs; and the product is biodegradable as it reverts back to "air." The washed garments are cleaner and have no heat damage which makes Sailors' garments last longer.

The Navy Lodge Program has several programs in place that emphasize the importance of water and energy conservation.

The Good Earthkeeping Program gives guests the option of reusing their towels during their stay, the Energy Management Program is designed to reduce energy cost while the Laundry Management Program works on reducing water usage and chemical use in the laundry operations.

The potential for savings is great since water consumption for in-house laundry is reduced, as are energy costs and chemical use.

In addition, Navy Lodges are installing energy efficient light fixtures and light bulbs, motion detection light switches in all public restrooms and storage rooms as well as installing an energy management system to control heat and air conditioning in guest rooms.

Each Navy Lodge room has also had low flow water faucets and shower heads installed to save on water consumption.

In NEXs, customers also have the option of purchasing NEX Green bags to use instead of plastic bags.

These reusable/recyclable bags are made of a sturdy mesh, sewn from 100 percent polypropylene that can withstand repeated usage and can be recycled when no longer usable.

Its sturdy straps carry a lot

of weight without tearing and each bag's flat bottom helps prevent the bags from tipping over.

As part of each Naval installation, NEXs worldwide also participate in various recycling and environmental protection programs.

Base clean up efforts, tree planting initiatives and education programs are just part of what NEXs do to support the Navy, its customers and the community to help protect the environment.



In NEXs, customers also have the option of purchasing NEX Green bags to use instead of plastic bags. These reusable/recyclable bags are made of a sturdy mesh, sewn from 100 percent polypropylene that can withstand repeated usage and can be recycled when no longer usable.

News Feature

For whom 'the bell' tolls

Story, photo by MC1 Robert Lamb

NAVSTA Public Affairs

"It's all about the quality of life here and after two and a half years of considerable effort of all involved it's finally here," said Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's Commanding Officer, Capt. Mark Leary, just moments before cutting the ribbon of the new Taco Bell Express.

Yes, time does fly by or things just seem to take a little longer to accomplish here in Guantanamo Bay (GTMO), but they finally did it. Taco Bell Express!

Everyone who had anything to do with getting this project up and running wanted to witness the grand opening of this long awaited project, Tuesday, April 8.

Craig Basel, Morale, Welfare and Recreation Director summed it up in a few words. "Lots of man hours, lots of money and lots of personnel were involved in this project."

Before the ribbon was cut, Capt. Leary wanted the large crowd, which was lined up around the building, located next to the Bowling Center, to understand exactly how complex this project was to complete.

"Before we could start we had to do a food service survey. Then we had to find the money, and find a contractor to bring more power to this place and of course the approval to have Morale, Welfare and Recreation maintenance staff and food service folks to bring it all together," he added.

Head of line privileges for the grand opening went to Leroy Davis. Actually it went to the Davis family.

"I was totally surprised when I found out I won the first in line ticket, because I didn't even buy the ticket, my wife did," Davis said.

Angela Davis bought three tickets. One each for her husband Leroy, son Kingston and herself. Leroy was the big winner and while standing at the head of the line he had one thing in mind. "I hope they have crunchy tacos on the menu." They do.!



Leroy Davis, who won the right to be the first customer in line at the grand opening of the GTMO Taco Bell Express courtesy of the 2008 Navy Ball committee, places his order at the restaurant's grand opening April 8.

"I like crunchy tacos," said Davis. The menu appears to be a little bit shorter than back in the states, but as long as they have crunchy tacos, I'm happy. WOW! They have crunchy Taco Supremes too, great."

Master minding the 'First in Line' privilege for the grand opening was the 2008 Navy Ball committee.

"Really, the 'First in Line' drawing for Taco Bell was the idea of Lisa DeGross, a member of the Navy Ball Committee," said Navy Ball Committee Chairman, ET1 Michael Schiltz. "It (Taco Bell) had potential to be big buzz since it looked like it was going to open for real this time. So we decided to sell tickets. We sold over 400 tickets and raised over \$870 for the 2008 Navy Ball. We, at the Navy Ball Committee would like to thank everyone that was part of making this fundraiser a great success. Especially the Davis family," Schiltz said.

Not to upset the Colonel, Kentucky Fried Chicken is also up and running as well. Bones and all.



Iguana Crossing Coffee House open for use

Story, photo by MC2 Kim Williams

NAVSTA Public Affairs

The Iguana Crossing Coffee Shop, located in the Chapel Hill Annex's main entrance, is now open for use.

The colorful, cozy space can serve as a meeting place for friends, colleagues or a quiet study room for a troop in need of some 'space.'

"Iguana Crossing is a place to socialize, not hermitize," said Lt. David Mowbray, NAVSTA Chaplain and Iguana Crossing volunteer. "The space is equipped with two internet stations, bar style seating with tables and living-room inspired gathering area. "We encourage people to use Iguana Crossing to break between classes and it is also a great place for kids to hang out," said Mowbray. "It is a ministry of the church provided by the Chapel."

Volunteers at the facility said that Iguana Crossing was once a very active location in years past, but when the staff who managed the shop left island, the shop ceased operations.

"It [Iguana Crossing] is an untapped resource that we wanted to revamp and revitalize," said Chief Interior Communications Electrician Eric Jorgenson, volunteer. "We are looking for volunteers to help keep the shop going."

Local servicemembers new to GTMO see the coffee shop as a jewel in the community and are excited to assist in its preservation.

"I felt it was a place that I could talk with someone that may need to vent or just have a cup of coffee and chit-chat," said Navy Diver 2nd Class Clessie Simmons, volunteer. "It's somewhere to go relax that you don't have all of the peer pressures that come along with hanging out at other places on base and in GTMO, or anywhere, that's an invaluable thing to have."

For more information about scheduling the space or volunteering at Iguana Crossing, call 2088.

Creature Feature

Hydroids: Hydrozoa are here again

Story by MC1

Robert Lamb

NAVSTA PAO

The water is warm and it's relaxing, but sometimes you may feel a little irritated by it.

If you're swimming in the Guantanamo Bay in and around one of our beautiful beaches and you start feeling that you're being stung by a jelly fish, you might be right but it's more likely Hydroids.

They seem to come around every April and this year is no different.

If you would like more information about Hydroids, please contact the Environmental Department at 4662. According to studies, Hydroids are jelly fish like creatures, but they are very hard to see and to detect.

Hydroids have two body forms. One is the medusa, a jelly-like, umbrella-shaped, freely swimming form with a mouth and tentacles that face



Many local divers suggest using topical vinegar to neutralize undischarged nematocysts and remove remaining tentacles then flush with sea water rather than fresh water.

down. The other is a colony of polyps, or tube-shaped sacs that have a mouth and tentacles that face up. The polyp form is fixed to the material on

which it lives. Most hydroids have both a medusa and a polyp stage.

If you are stung by a Hydroid, Remove any remnant of

allergen wash out wounds or injury with vinegar or sea water. Call for help and immediate transportation to the nearest medical facility.

Iraq from page 1

away."We thought the Navy MAs would take over the mission here on the fenceline and we would be moving to Guam, but that changed and when I came back, I found out we [MCSF GTMO] weren't going anywhere," said Snyder.

Snyder's 2007 deployment reflected the progress made since his previous stint in Iraq.

"It was a good time to be there [Iraq]. Up until mid 2007, al- Anbar was considered the worst province in the country. In 2004 my battalion had one of the highest casualty rates in the entire military. We had 34 marines and Sailors killed and a third of the battalion was wounded in seven months, but by the time we left in 2007, it

was considered the model province," said Snyder. "The violence levels dropped off and being able to see what they dealt with and how the mission changed to an economic and government engagement—the insurgency was really pushed out of Al Anbar.

"The focus among the population shifted. First it was security related concerns but by the time we left we shifted to food, we only have eight hours electricity."

Snyder stated that contrary to what many media and individuals state-side and around the world believe, as of late, the region has seen a lot of economic engagement and teaching. He explained that Soldiers are teaching Iraqis how to manage themselves and noted that violence

levels have dropped and petty trade has began to flourish.

"Servicemembers cleared Ar Ramadi in 2007," said Snyder. "People are now out in the streets. In 2004 you ran from your vehicle because you were getting shot at every time—now we walking around with our flack jackets off," said Snyder.

Snyder cautions that while things are looking up in some parts of Iraq, there is still a war to fight and that servicemembers should be prepared to stay the course until the job is done. He explained that he wanted to share his experience to give curious troops, and civilians alike, insight about life when your 'boots are on ground.'

Downtown Lyceum

Friday, April 11

Welcome Home

Roscoe Jenkins

8 p.m., PG 13, 114 min.

Definitely Maybe

10 p.m., PG 13, 112 min.

Saturday, April 12

Step Up 2

8 p.m., PG 13, 97 min.

Jumper

10 p.m., PG 13, 90 min.

Sunday, April 13

Fool's Gold

8 p.m., PG 13, 109 min.

Monday, April 14

Untraceable

8 p.m., R, 101 min.

Tuesday, April 15

Welcome Home

Roscoe Jenkins

8 p.m., PG 13, 114 min.

Wednesday, April 16

Over Her Dead Body

8 p.m., PG 13, 95 min.

Thursday, April 17

Shine A Light

8 p.m., PG 13, 95 min.

Definitely, maybe



Genre: romantic comedy

Cast: Ryan Reynolds, Rachel Weisz, Elizabeth Banks, Isla Fisher, and Abigail Breslin.

Will Hayes (Ryan Reynolds) is a 30-something father who is in a midst of a divorce. His 10 year old daughter Maya (Abigail Breslin) lives with her mother but is with him once or twice a week. On one of these occasions she questions him about his life before marriage.

Step Up 2



Genre: Drama

Cast: Briana Evigan, Channing Tatum and Robert Hoffman.

The Streets, follows Andie (Briana Evigan) as she pursues her dream of becoming a dancer and pursue the title of the illegal competition 'The Streets'.

MWR Happenings

LIBERTY APRIL EVENTS

Apr 11th Night Fishing 1900 at the Marina

Apr 12th Golf Tournament 0800 at the Golf Course

April 14th Last Buck Party 1900 All Centers

April 16th Liberty at the Lanes 1800 at the Bowling Center

FMI Call 2010

MWR COMEDY SHOW

Daniel Dugar, Robert Hawkins, Chris Strait, Patrick DeGuire

April 10th Bayview 2000

April 11th Windjammer 2000

LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL

Ages 4 to 14 years old

Clinic will be at Zaiser Field for 11 to 14 year

olds at 1300 to 1400 and at Brandon Field

for 7 to 10 year olds at 1400 to 1500 on April 19th

Sign up at the Base Gym by April 18th

\$25 Registration Fee

FMI contact Karissa at 77262 or by email at

SandstromKA@usnbgtno.navy.mil

WANTED: LITTLE LEAGUE COACHES

Sign up by April 18th at the Base Gym

Coaches Clinic April 19th

FMI contact Karissa at 77262

For Sale

(2) Xbox 360 Games - Gears of War \$20, Saints Row with Guide \$20 FMI call 77344.

(2) 32" Sony TV /stand \$300.00; Compaq Computer/ monitor \$500.00; Complete Dive Gear set with dive computer \$1000.00; Mini Fridge \$50.00. FMI call 75724.

(2) 100 used golf balls \$20.00 FMI call 77120.

(2) Custom Tim Nolte Surfboard 5' 10" \$100 OBO; Trek 7300 road bike \$200 OBO. FMI call 77218.

(2) Shipped by mistake, Att: Porcelain Doll Collectors, high end porcelain dolls, retails at over 200.00 ea. Will sell for 75.00 ea. Must see to appreciate (4) available. FMI call 75655.

(2) Furniture grade hardwood for sale. Walnut 21 board feet, \$100; Mahogany 32 bdf, \$170; Red Oak 14 bdf, \$66; Poplar 39 bdf, \$150, Hickory 7.6 bdf, \$37; Birch 1 1/2 bdf, \$93. Mahogany is rough cut and other is surfaced on two sides. Each wood sold only by the whole unit, or buy the lot for \$550. Fir boards for sale, \$125 OBO. Butcher Block Maple Table tops. (one) 26"x48"x2" for \$125, and (one) 24"x30"x1 1/4 inch thick for \$75, or make an offer. Knife and long blade grinder, Grizzly 24", with a gallon of concentrated water based oil, \$150 OBO. Game table, foosball, pool, hockey, great shape, \$100 OBO. FMI call 75815.

(2) Woodworking table saw, Grizzly 1023SL cabinet saw, with outfeed table, Forrest Woodworker II blade, extra inserts, mobile base, hold-downs, sleds, and more. \$850 or OBO. FMI call 75815.

(1) Grade three and five Abeka home school books. All books half of the Abeka list price. Reading books, teacher books, workbooks etc. Size 7/8 girl clothes \$1 a piece. All prices are firm. FMI call 77344.

(1) Fisher Price baby swing 8-speeds; lights and music Baby Einstein bouncy seat that vibrates; lights and music Evenflo car seat with base, dark blue and tan with teddy bears, \$20 each or \$50 for all 3; baby boy clothes 0 to 3 months; size 12 halter style formal sage green with shoulder wrap, \$75 OBO. FMI call 77069.

(1) Toshiba laptop for sale 15.4 brightview, wireless, 1.6 ghz, \$625, ge washer and dryer both for \$70, camera \$30, ide hard drive \$60, dvd burner, ddr memory, wireless amplifier, wireless antenna, flash drive, brand new diabetes monitor, iron, toaster FMI call 77116.

(1) Queen size bed \$500; 32" Sony TV

w/stand 300; Dive gear complete set \$1000. FMI call 75724.

(1) Tony Little "Gazelle". Get a low-impact, full-body workout with this fold-flat piece which would cost you over \$200 in the U.S. Hardly used and selling for \$100; FMI 4127.

(1) Four piece queen bedroom set, stylish dark wood, inlaid leather headboard, excellent condition, Queen mattress, 15" TV, vertical rotating fan (grey), light wood chest (still in original box) FMI call 77052.

(1) Dell 1501 lap top for sale great condition, windows xp, one year norton virus protection, dvd and cd burner, \$650. FMI call 4222/77590.

(1) Minnkota Endura 30 electric trolling motor \$30 OBO. Various Plants FMI call 8188 or 84233.

(1) 7 Men's shirts size medium - 3 linen \$20 ea, 4 cotton \$10 ea, 4 Men dress pants size 36/32 - 2 linen \$25 ea, 2 cotton \$20 ea. FMI call 75811.

(1) Sea and Sea underwater digital camera DX 8000G Islander package. New! \$1400; Downriggers Pennelectric, few hours, like new. 48" 2 available \$500 each OBO. FMI call 72900/77796.

(1) New black futon, \$50. FMI call 4444.

Vehicles/Boats

(2) 1995 Chrysler Concorde, turns over but does not start, needs minor work to run A/C, CD \$650 OBO FMI call 77940.

(2) 1985 Red Hot Toyota Pickup Good Condition, Runs Well \$2500 OBO FMI call 2351/77415.

(2) 1985 2-door Chevy Sprint, tinted windows, low milage, fairly new parts, very good on gas. Manual transmission. \$1800 OBO. FMI call 79088.

(2) 2005 Harley Davidson 1200 Roadster \$7,000 OBO FMI call 77218.

(1) BMW sedan 4 door 1982 Must go! The best price in GTMO \$1700. FMI call 75849.

(1) For Sale Must Go Now! 1987 626 Mazda, standard. \$1500 OBO. Serious enquires only. FMI call 4700.

(1) 2001 Jeep Wrangler Sport-2-door, blue, soft top - black, \$8700 OBO. Mileage 83,911. FMI call 9819 or 79567.

(1) 1988 Audi 80 sedan, 5 spd manual, A/C, new radiator, other new parts, \$2500 OBO, FMI 75808.

(1) 2005 eco-friendly electric scooter only used for 3 months asking \$1500. FMI call 77345.

(1) 2007 BMS Moped only 190 miles, \$1500. Call 77265.

(1) '93 Jeep Cherokee \$4,600. FMI call 75724.

(1) 20ft center console Fishing / Dive boat with 2002 Evinrude 90hp OB. VHF

radio, depth sounder w/fish finder, dive ladder, am/fm/cd radio w/2 speakers, dual batteries, dual anchors, and forward seat cushions. Trailer included \$5500. FMI call 2234, 84052, or 75860.

(1) 1995 Honda Civic EX 152,000 Miles, Black, Tinted Windows, Sunroof - AC Rims and Low Pro Tires, Alpine CDA, iPod ready/ \$5,500 OBO; 18ft. 1980 Aquasport Center Console with trailer, \$4500 OBO; FMI call 84261 or 74844.

(1) Ford Explorer green, great condition, good mileage 2 owners only. 5200 OBO FMI call 77957.

(1) 85 Ford Bronco 4x4 Wagon \$6000 OBO. Parafoil 272 Black rigged for Parasailing, \$500, FMI call 9741/77349.

(1) 14ft Boston Whaler Fiberglass boat w/2005 Mercury outboard engine. Great bay boat for inshore fishing and diving. Well maintained. \$3000 OBO. FMI call 8188 OR 84233. (1) Fiberglass center console boat custom built for fishing. Fully loaded turn-key w/2006 Yamaha 40hp OB. \$6,500.00 OBO. Call 84040 FMI.

(1) Yamaha Wave Runner III Jet Ski with Shorelandr Trailer. Runs great and in very good condition. \$3200.00. Call 8188 OR 84233.

(1) 2002 Toyota Sequoia SR5, power everything, 59,000 miles, great condition, \$17,500 FMI please call 75811, please leave message.

(1) '87 Bayliner. Good cond. New trailer. FMI and price call 3472/2531.

Employment

(2) Columbia College at Guantanamo Bay is looking for a Director. As a Director this individual will oversee the delivery of the curriculum at the local level as well as monitor the adjunct faculty. He/she will serve as a liaison with appropriate private, state, and federal agencies. This individual will also work in coordination with the Vice President for Adult Higher Education to project income and expenditures during the budget year, provide information on any policy/procedures of Columbia College to comply with local law or regulations, and develop and execute a marketing plan for recruitment of students. Minimum Qualifications: Master's degree, some experience in Higher Education. Preferred Qualifications: The ideal candidate will be results-oriented with excellent oral and written communication skills. The candidate must have the ability to work independently and as part of a team. Experience in academic advisement/

counseling, strong computer literacy, and marketing experience would be a plus. Some evening or weekend work may be required. To apply send cover letter, resumes and application to: Columbia College, Human Resources, 1001 Rogers Street, Columbia, MO 65216 by fax 573.875.7266, or visit our website at www.ccis.edu.

(1) SureStart Aid, salary: YB 1 Part-time/ Temporary 16-38 hours per week. Cut-off date: 17 APR 2008. Your official application can be picked up and submitted to the W.T. Sampson HS main office. FMI call Deana, ext. 3500.

Announcements

(2) The Jamaica Independence Day Committee (JIDC) is looking for volunteers for this year 2008 celebration FMI call Everton Hylton at 2285 or Benford Taylor at 75041.

(1) The Teen Center will be having a Poetry Slam April 18, 2008 at 1500-1700. Teens must Sign up at the Teen Center by April 17, 2008. Poetry Theme "Life as a Military Child." Grand Prize- Digital Camera. FMI call 2096.

(1) GTMO's got talent too. Show displaying a variety of talent. April 26, 7 p.m. Ages six years to 17 years. FMI call Sunni Malone 77957.

(1) Burns and Roe Leaders League would like to invite the GTMO community to its "Kabayan Night: Talent Competition", to be held at Sunken Garden (behind GHT) April 12, 8 p.m. FMI 90413 or Pencil at 3871.

LOST

(1) \$100 Reward for 1st info resulting in recovery of a blue-green Ocean Kayack Scrambler, brazenly stolen from the Sailing Center. FMI call 4420.

(2) Lost: left-handed Wilson adult baseball glove-light in color. FMI call 77311.

Misc. Ads

(1) Wanted: Mosquito Magnet Pro machine with instruction book. Original box preferred, but not necessary. Propane tank optional. FMI call 77642.

(1) Found: Camera March 30 Glass Beach Cannon Digital camera. FMI call 9876.

(1) Looking for a good home: Cocker Spaniel needs a good home. Owner has allergy so avail ASAP. FMI call 77957.

Yard Sales

April 12 & 13: Villamar 718C, 7 a.m. to noon. Multi family Indoor yard sale.

April 12: Villamar 41C, 7-10 a.m.

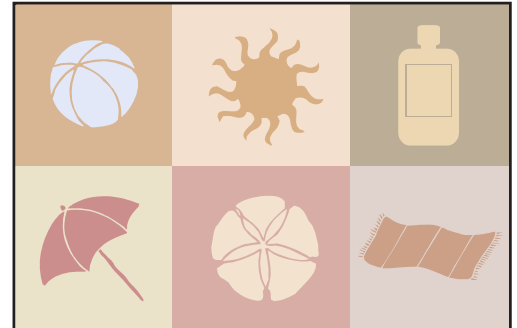
April 12: Center Bargo 11558 a.m.-noon.

GTMO Happenings



Beach Clean up - Members of the GTMO FCPOA and BJA take a moment to relax during their beach cleanup at Hospital Cay. The two associations along with the CPOA came together to clean up more than 20 bags of trash from the local beach.

Photo by
BMSN
Tiffany
Scott



Quick change artist - The Stacie Collins Band turned out to be the lead act on Tuesday, April 7. Due to aircraft maintenance problems Lou Gramm was unable to perform so the venue was changed and Stacie and her band played to a crowded Windjammer Ballroom instead.



Photos by MC1 Robert Lamb



Photo by Christopher Hileman

Sail away - Sailboats took advantage of the 5 - 15 knot winds on Saturday, April 5, as private and Morale, Welfare and Recreation sailboats sailed around Guantanamo Bay, during a Sailing Regatta.